

Table 6.5

Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
POLICY G1		Carry out recommended policies. Seek a higher profile for the protection and management of urban and community forest resources in public and private community planning, development, capital investment and infrastructure management decisions.	
	1	<i>Develop and maintain a comprehensive statewide urban and community forestry program.</i>	General Assembly, Executive Office, US Forest Service, RIDEM, municipalities, private tree/forest resource advocacy groups
G2		Include urban and community forests in the state's planned greenway network	
	1	<i>Plan community-wide greenway systems.</i>	RIDEM, RI Greenways Council, municipalities, citizens
	2	<i>Protect significant forest resources through acquisition programs, donations, and public dedication requirements.</i>	RIDEM, RI Greenways Council, local planning boards, development community, citizens
	3	<i>Retain vacant publicly-owned land, including excess highway rights-of-way that have open space value.</i>	RIDOT, RISPP, State Prop. Comm., municipalities
G3		Increase the legal protection accorded to tree resources under state and local laws.	
	1	<i>Adopt and enforce community tree ordinances regulating the planning, planting, maintenance, and removal of trees on public property.</i>	Municipalities, private tree/forest resource advocacy groups, citizens
	2	<i>Adopt zoning and land development standards to protect trees and vegetation during site planning and development.</i>	RISPP, municipalities, private interest groups, citizens
	3	<i>Enact local zoning and land development ordinances that offer incentives for the clustering of development and the reservation of sensitive features such as open space.</i>	RISPP, municipalities, private interest groups, citizens
	4	<i>Consider amendments to existing legislation relating to replacement requirements for public trees removed or destroyed.</i>	General Assembly, Executive Office, private interest groups
	5	<i>Consider measures to limit pre-development land clearance activities.</i>	General Assembly, Executive Office, municipalities, private interest groups

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POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
P1		Identify tree resources as a significant natural resource to be comprehensively planned for.	RISPP, local planning boards, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	1	<i>Maintain and periodically update this urban and community forestry element of the State Guide Plan.</i>	RISPP, RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups
	2	<i>Update state comprehensive planning standards to require comprehensive planning for community tree resources.</i>	RISPP
	3	<i>Insure that local comprehensive plans provide adequate policies for protection and enhancement of urban and community tree resources.</i>	RISPP
	4	<i>Coordinate planning for trees with all interested groups and agencies affected by or having an effect upon tree resources.</i>	RISPP, RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups
P2		Track the status of Rhode Island's urban and community forest resources on a statewide and community level.	
	1	<i>Develop community tree inventories and encourage communities to include canopy cover data</i>	Municipalities
	2	<i>Insure that future state land use surveys include forest canopy coverage data.</i>	RISPP, RIGIS
	3	<i>Utilize GIS-based software packages to establish the functions and benefits performed by community tree resources.</i>	Municipalities
D1		Encourage new development that respects forest resources as vital elements of the community and properly integrates trees to create high-quality living and working environments	
	1	<i>Retain or create greenbelts of forest and farmland as a demarcation between urban and rural areas of the state</i>	RISPP, RIDEM, RIGC, RIALPC, RIWRB, municipalities, private land protection organizations & interest groups, citizens
	2	<i>Encourage new intensive growth to locate in established urban and suburban areas, and favor village-centered growth patterns in rural areas.</i>	RISPP, municipalities, private interest groups, development community

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POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
D1 (cont'd.)	3	<i>Encourage greater use of open space subdivision and similar development forms to promote compact development patterns.</i>	RISPP, RIDEM, municipalities, private interest groups, development community
	4	<i>Require evaluation and protection of natural features and cultural characteristics, including significant woodlands and special trees.</i>	Municipalities, citizens
	5	<i>Encourage tree-sensitive site design and development practices that include input from landscape and tree resource professionals to identify and protect significant tree resources.</i>	Municipalities; landscape, design, and forest resource professionals; builders & developers
	6	<i>Encourage greater municipal expertise in landscape design and tree resource specialties to improve consideration of tree and landscape issues during the development review process.</i>	Municipalities; landscape, design, and forest resource professionals, citizens
	7	<i>Encourage developers to include landscape and tree professionals in site development teams.</i>	Municipalities; landscape, design, and forest resource professionals, citizens
D2		Integrate trees into the built environment to beautify, buffer, and shelter structures and facilities.	
	1	<i>Replace existing tree resources unavoidably lost during development.</i>	State and municipal agencies, builders & developers
	2	<i>Encourage the retention of trees in existing developed areas, and include an optimum level of trees and landscaping in all new development and redevelopment projects.</i>	Municipalities, builders & developers
	3	<i>Plant new trees strategically to maximize the public benefits they provide while minimizing potential conflicts with infrastructure and public safety.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
	4	<i>Utilize trees and vegetation to integrate and/or create an aesthetic transition between differing land uses.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
D2 (cont'd.)	5	<i>Plant significant trees in prominent locations where space and other conditions permit.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
	6	<i>Use street trees, landscaping, and container plantings to enliven and beautify downtowns, "Main Streets," and suburban shopping districts.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
	7	<i>Use trees and landscaping to frame landmark structures or to highlight the graceful lines of historic buildings.</i>	State and municipal agencies, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
	8	<i>Develop design and landscaping standards for commercial and industrial areas that require the use of trees to soften the edges or break the lines of large, bulky buildings and to enliven monotonous facades.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
	9	<i>Use trees and landscaping creatively to mask unsightly land uses or to buffer adjoining uses from the noise, odor, or other pollution of an "undesired" land use.</i>	Municipalities, landscape professionals, builders & developers, tree advocacy groups, citizens
D3		Maximize reliance on the environmental benefits provided by trees as a means of minimizing future service costs of development.	
	1	<i>Establish flexible buffer requirements...to employ vegetated zones of varying types, widths, and densities to effectively minimize pollution, noise, and other negative impacts.</i>	RIDEM, RICRMC, municipalities, design and landscape professionals
	2	<i>Develop stormwater management systems that ...encourage the maximum reliance on retention of natural vegetation and the use of natural drainageways, vegetated buffers, swales and filter strips, and permeable paving surfaces to control surface runoff in new developments.</i>	RIDEM, RICRMC, municipalities, design and landscape professionals
	3	<i>Develop guidelines for tree planting or retention to... minimize ... energy consumption ... Consider the energy effects of proposed landscaping (or land clearance) when reviewing subdivision and land development projects</i>	Municipalities, design and landscape professionals, utility companies, builders & developers

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
D4		Promote the development and management of transportation corridors as greenways.	
	1	<i>Identify design objectives (including landscaping and aesthetic goals) for arterials, gateways, major intersections, and collector streets in local comprehensive plans.</i>	RISPP, RIDOT, municipalities, citizens
	2	<i>Encourage the use of vegetated buffers to reduce stormwater runoff from highways and parking lots, and to serve as noise barriers along high-volume highways and rail corridors.</i>	RIDOT, RIDEM, RICRMC, RIGC, municipalities
	3	<i>Develop guidelines encouraging the establishment of street trees as buffers delineating pedestrian and vehicular portions of the right-of-way.</i>	RIDOT, RIGC, municipalities, design professions, private interest groups
	4	<i>Enhance the livability of communities by designing roadways that include landscaping, parkway trees, compatible street furnishings, and scenic view corridors.</i>	RIDOT, RISHB, municipalities, design professions, private interest groups
	5	<i>Require the reservation of planting strips of sufficient width for street trees in plans for new streets and roads approved under local subdivision and land development review provisions.</i>	Municipal planning boards and public works departments
	6	<i>Encourage a high level of tree planting and landscaping in state construction projects.</i>	State and local governments, citizens
I1		Recognizing that forests are a community asset, promote an increased commitment to public tree planting and maintenance.	
	1	<i>Insure that municipal budgets provide sufficient resources for proper maintenance and replacement of public tree resources.</i>	City and town councils
	2	<i>Retain and increase street trees in urban and suburban neighborhoods.</i>	State and local governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	3	<i>Support efforts by statewide and local tree groups to involve citizens actively in tree planting, care, and advocacy.</i>	State and local governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
I1 (cont'd.)	4	<i>Promote greater use of the statutory provision allowing public trees to be planted on private land proximate to public ways, ... to avoid infrastructure conflicts.</i>	Municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	5	<i>Cooperate with utility companies and non-profit organizations to develop metropolitan tree planting programs.</i>	Municipal governments, utility companies, private tree advocacy groups
	6	<i>Include tree planting and establishment care as a capital expenditure in new development, redevelopment, and major infrastructure projects.</i>	State and municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups
	7	<i>Consider funding tree planting projects as a capital development expense under state and local open space and greenways bond issues.</i>	RIDEM, RIGC, municipal governments
	8	<i>Develop cost-recovery programs to insure that the costs of replacing public trees damaged or destroyed by negligent private actions are defrayed.</i>	State and local governments
I2		Maximize the impact of public tree planting. Plant the "right tree for the right place," using trees appropriate to site conditions.	
	1	<i>Tailor the selection of tree species to the climate, location, and benefits desired at the intended site.</i>	State and local governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens' planting programs
	2	<i>Promote a diversity of species in tree planting programs and/or requirements.</i>	State and local governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens' planting programs
	3	<i>Encourage a consistent annual rate of tree planting to foster an age-diverse tree population.</i>	State and local governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens' planting programs
	4	<i>Work with the nursery industry and landscaping profession to insure that balled tree stock is supplied and installed with the root flare properly situated relative to the site grade.</i>	RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups, nursery and landscape professionals.

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
I2 (cont'd)	5	<i>Encourage communities to designate qualified staff to assist in and oversee community and neighborhood tree planting efforts.</i>	Municipalities, RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
I3		Guard against the unnecessary loss of community tree resources, especially historic and special trees.	
	1	<i>Develop an inventory and designation process for historic, landmark, and champion trees worthy of special status and protection as individual specimens. Recognize and provide technical assistance to private landowners.</i>	Municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	2	<i>Design the placement of utilities, sidewalks, roadways, etc. to minimize the impact on existing and proposed trees. Coordinate utility, road, and sidewalk excavation projects with the local tree warden.</i>	State and local agencies, utility companies, private tree advocacy groups
	3	<i>Seek custodial agreements to insure that any trees planted in new planned developments will be properly cared for.</i>	Local planning boards
	4	<i>Consider performance bonding... for newly-planted trees and.... for ...existing trees designated to be "saved during construction."</i>	Local planning boards, local public works departments
I4		Encourage a high level of maintenance of community green infrastructure through adopted standards and adequate funding.	
	1	<i>Work to insure that each public tree planted is accompanied by a commitment for adequate long-term stewardship.</i>	Municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups
	2	<i>Develop tree inspection and maintenance standards for public trees to avoid hazardous conditions and minimize municipal liability for tree damages.</i>	State and local governments
	3	<i>Require new development to contribute its fair share to the cost of providing and maintaining community infrastructure, including green infrastructure (parks, street trees, etc.).</i>	Municipal governments, local planning boards, builders and developers

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
I4 (cont'd)	4	<i>Encourage partnerships with utility companies for replacement of street trees removed for overhead wire clearances.</i>	Municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, utility companies
	5	<i>Promote coordination in public right-of-way maintenance to insure that tree pruning and removal guidelines safeguard public health and welfare, enhance the vitality of community tree resources, and support community objectives for streetscape aesthetics.</i>	Municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, utility companies
	6	<i>Encourage the Department of Transportation to review and update its tree protection detail in construction specifications to enhance the protection of trees to be saved during projects. (Note that RIDOT specifications are used by many communities as basic standards for construction projects).</i>	State and municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
EC1		Support sustainable forest- product industries as a local economic development strategy ... to encourage retention of land in forests by private landowners.	
	1	<i>Support efforts by private forest landowners to sustainably manage commercially-productive forest lands by providing education, information, research and technical assistance.</i>	RIDEM, URI-CE, municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups
	2	<i>Provide research, outreach and education, and technical assistance to promote the development of viable alternative forest products and services.</i>	RIDEM, URI-CE, municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups
	3	<i>Amend the R.I. Farm, Forest and Open Space Act to provide greater incentives for forest landowners to retain their land in forests.</i>	RI General Assembly and Executive Office, private interest groups
	4	<i>Consider the economic and other impacts of proposed new laws, ordinances, and regulations to avoid threatening the economic viability of privately-held forest lands...</i>	RI General Assembly and Executive Office, municipal governments, private interest groups

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
EC1 (cont'd)	5	<i>Insure that the comprehensive plans of rural communities recognize and support the practice of sustainable forestry and the role of forest products in the local economy...</i>	RISPP, municipal governments, private interest groups, citizens
	6	<i>Educate community officials and the public on the favorable impact which retention of land in forests and open space has on the costs of community services and local tax rates.</i>	RIDEM, RISPP, private interest groups
ED1		Increase public awareness of the benefits provided by community tree resources.	
	1	<i>Cooperate with statewide and local tree advocacy organizations to educate the public on the importance and values of trees and on proper tree stewardship practices.</i>	RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups
	2	<i>Educate builders and developers on the beneficial effect that retention of mature trees or provision of greenways and other forest amenities provide in the marketing and valuation of new developments.</i>	Private tree advocacy groups, builders and developers
	3	<i>Educate the business community about the value of tree resources... in creating a favorable environment for commerce.</i>	Private tree advocacy groups, business groups
	4	<i>Educate community officials on the positive contribution that urban and community forest resources make to the overall attractiveness and desirability of the state and its communities.</i>	Private tree advocacy groups, municipal governments, private interest groups
ED2		Increase awareness of the techniques for protecting existing tree resources during construction and development activities.	
	1	<i>Work in partnership ... to educate public works officials, municipal planners, utility officials, builders and developers, and private landowners on construction practices and methods that minimize harm to trees.</i>	Private tree advocacy groups, municipal governments, builders and developers, private interest groups

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Rhode Island Urban and Community Forestry Plan IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

POLICY		Strategies (some abbreviated for space reasons)	Partnership necessary to effect strategy
PR1		Forge partnerships with private groups supporting forest resource protection.	
	1	<i>Offer incentives to private forest landowners for protection and management of publicly-significant forest and tree resources.</i>	State and municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, private interest groups, citizens
	2	<i>Cooperate with local land trusts and private land protection and conservation groups to protect significant forest resources.</i>	Municipal governments, private land protection organizations, private tree advocacy groups
PR2		Involve the public and the private sector in efforts to plant and maintain community tree resources including public trees.	
	1	<i>Encourage neighborhood tree planting and stewardship programs modeled on efforts such as Providence's and Newport's neighborhood planting programs.</i>	RIDEM, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	2	<i>Seek support for endowment of a statewide tree stewardship fund modeled on the Sharpe and Raleigh trusts in Providence.</i>	State and municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, citizens
	3	<i>Cooperate with utility companies in offering education and incentive programs to customers who install appropriate landscaping as effective means to lessen energy demand in existing buildings.</i>	State and municipal governments, private tree advocacy groups, utility companies